GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:702
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2016
Bulk Drug Imports from China
Ashok Kumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India currently meets about 80 per cent of its demand of bulk drugs or API used as raw material by the pharmaceutical industry through imports from China;
(b) whether it is true that the inverted duty structure is hampering the pharma and medical devices industries in India;
(c) whether it is also true that the Government is considering doing away with the price control on essential and life saving drugs; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a): The Government has not assessed the demand and supply of the Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) as the market data relating to production is not available as the market is divided into captive and merchant market and capacities are not divulged due to competitive reasons. However, Boston Consulting Group (BCG) in its report of October, 2013 has stated that imports of API were approximately US $ 3.5 Billion (Rs. 21450 crore) and about 60% of the imports were from China.

(b): There has been representation from manufacturers/ associations of Pharma and medical device industry in India that the inverted duty structure is hampering the growth of the respective sectors.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): In view of reply to (c) above, does not arise.

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